

AND THE BOSTON POPS

SIDE ONE

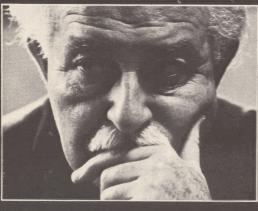
JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR . . . 5:36 (Overture, Everything's Alright) Andrew Lloyd Webber, Tim Rice Arranged by Robert Bockholt Leeds Music Corp., Div. of MCA Music (ASCAP)

WHAT HAVE THEY DONE TO MY SONG, MA . . . 4:10 Melanie Safka Arranged by Richard Hayman Kamma Rippa/Amelanie Music (ASCAP)

PROUD MARY ... 2:22 Fogerty Arranged by Marty Gold Jondora Music (BMI)

LOVE STORY THEME . . . 4:25 Francis Lai Arranged by Richard Hayman Famous Music Corp. (ASCAP)

GENTLE ON MY MIND . . . 2:56 John Hartford Arranged by John Woodbury Glasser Pub. Inc. (BMI)



SIDE TWO

LOVE ME TONIGHT . . . 3:21 Pilat, Panzeri, Pace, Mason Arranged by Al Woodbury Duchess Music Corp. (BMI)

LET IT BE . . . 4:34 Lennon, McCartney Arranged by Detlef Rath Maclen Music Inc. (BMI)

I THINK I LOVE YOU . . . 2:46 Arranged by Richard Hayman Screen Gems-Columbia Music Inc.

MAH-ŃA MAH-ŃA . . . 3:06 Piero Umiliani Arranged by William Goldstein E. B. Marks Corp. (BMI)

BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATER . . . 3:57 Arranged by Richard Hayman Charing Cross Music (BMI)

PRODUCED BY THOMAS MOWREY ENGINEERING: Guenter Hermanns, Volker Martin COVER ART: Norman Green ART DIRECTION: David Krieger

The Boston Pops has no rivals. It has always been bigger, better and brighter than any orchestra appealing to a popular audiencein a word, super.

Let other bands rest content to mount the worn-out warhorses of overplayed favorites for yet another turn around a tired old track. Mr. Fiedler is always ready to lead his group into fresher pastures. This latest program is a wonderfully adventurous example of his willingness, at the young age of 77, to joust with the new.



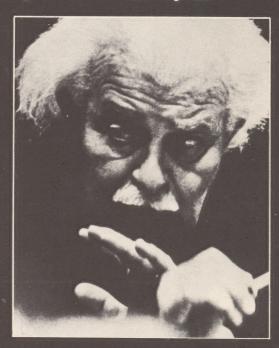
Nothing could be more contemporary than the score of Jesus Christ Superstar, the retelling of the gospel in today's rock idiom. The language of the text as well as the music belongs to now. Some of the boldest and most stirring music of the score by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice that has taken not only the younger generation but the whole world by storm leads off this concert, in a symphonic arrangement by Robert Bockholt that preserves the contemporary spirit of the work while showing off its sweep and distinction for the big Fiedler sound. The overture is a heady experience—soaring, inspiring—and "Everything's Alright," the melody to which Mary Magdalene comforts Jesus in the opera, is another memorable passage, especially the way the Pops plays it. But that's only the first of many surprises and unexpected musical turns of events in this spine-tingling concert.

Take "What Have They Done to My Song, Ma"—a happy piece of good-humored nostalgia if ever there was one, employing not only the sprightly resources of the Pops but a highspirited choral passage to multiply the fun.

Take "Proud Mary"—an energetic and sparkling exercise in what turns out to be super-rock the way it's handled here.

The mood changes. The orchestra turns its attention to that melting and yearning theme from "Love Story," already a classic since it was first heard in the movie that affected millions, presented here in a setting as rich as deep velvet to show off the diamond of Francis Lai's remarkable melody.

Next we're off on a fast and sassy treatment of John Hartford's "Gentle on My Mind" to set feet tapping and pulses pounding. Super-Italian is the only word for Fiedler's sunny Latinflavored treatment of "Love Me Tonight," which follows. Then the Lennon-McCartney favorite "Let It Be" gets a slow and sinuous going-over. Tony Romeo's "I Think I Love You" comes in for a circus approach that is supersparkling. Piero Umiliani's "Mah-ná Mah-ná" is even more spectacular, with cleverly hidden hints of snatches from "Santa Lucia," the "Swedish Rhapsody," the "Marseillaise" and even a passage from Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture" to keep us on our toes. Can you spot them? And the program concludes with Richard Hayman's setting of Paul Simon's Grammy-winning "Bridge Over Troubled Waters" that is Super-Simon in quality, bringing a relevant, right-on record to a resounding close.



One thing seems clear after listening to Fiedler's forces go through their paces in this latest gift from Boston. In a world where synthesizers and machine-made music threaten to supplant the hand-crafted product, Fiedler and his players show us for sure that no machine is going to replace the orchestra in a hurry—especially when it's a super-orchestra like the Boston Pops, conducted by a superstar like Arthur Fiedler.

Paul Kresh



Polydor Incorporated, 1700 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10019



ARTHUR FIEDLER SUPERSTAR Arthur Fiedler and the Boston Pops

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